

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 20, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 9, 2013

## Senate Concurrent Resolution

**No. 26**

### **Introduced by Senator Correa**

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo,  
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(Coauthors: Assembly Members Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow,  
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Daly, Dickinson, Donnelly, Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Beth Gaines,  
Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman,  
Harkey, Roger Hernández, Jones, Levine, Linder, Lowenthal,  
Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Morrell, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian,  
Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson, Perea, Quirk-Silva, Rendon,  
Skinner, Stone, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wieckowski,  
Williams, and Yamada)

March 14, 2013

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to Olympic wrestling.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 26, as amended, Correa. Wrestling: Olympic Games.

This measure would urge the International Olympic Committee to  
continue to include wrestling as a core sport of the Olympic Games.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, The International Olympic Committee (IOC)
- 2 Executive Board recently announced that wrestling will be removed
- 3 from the list of 25 core sports at the 2020 Olympic Games, though
- 4 this is not final; and

1 WHEREAS, The IOC Executive Board will meet in May 2013  
2 in St. Petersburg, Russia, to decide which sport or sports to propose  
3 for inclusion, and the entire IOC will vote on the final program at  
4 the IOC session, or general assembly, in September 2013 in Buenos  
5 Aires, Argentina; and

6 WHEREAS, Wrestling was one of the original sports in the  
7 ancient Olympic Games in Greece. During the ancient Olympic  
8 Games, beginning in 708 B.C., wrestling was the decisive  
9 discipline of the Pentathlon. It was the last discipline of the games  
10 to be held, after the discus, the javelin, the long jump, and the  
11 footrace, and its winner was designated the winner of the  
12 Pentathlon, the only crowned athlete of the games; and

13 WHEREAS, Wrestling is one of the most diverse sports in the  
14 world, with nearly 200 nations from all continents participating in  
15 the sport; and

16 WHEREAS, Wrestling is an inclusive sport that provides  
17 opportunities worldwide, regardless of geography, race, gender,  
18 or physical characteristics, and provides mainstream opportunities  
19 to athletes of all physical builds and body sizes, including the blind,  
20 deaf, and physically handicapped student athletes who may not  
21 otherwise have the opportunity to participate in athletics; and

22 WHEREAS, Wrestling builds great strength, not only of body,  
23 but also of character, including the virtues of self-confidence,  
24 self-discipline, courage, and leadership, and wrestling is recognized  
25 for serving communities throughout the nation by partnering with  
26 law enforcement, schools, and churches to provide programs to  
27 prevent and neutralize juvenile delinquency, especially gang-related  
28 crimes for many at-risk youth; and

29 WHEREAS, Wrestling has produced many outstanding national  
30 leaders, including Presidents of the United States, justices of United  
31 States Supreme Court, members of the United States Congress,  
32 and business and military leaders, and many outstanding leaders  
33 in California, including many Olympic champions, such as  
34 Olympic gold medalists Dave and Mark Schultz and 2012 Olympic  
35 gold medalist Jake Varner; and

36 WHEREAS, More than 70 countries competed in wrestling in  
37 London at the 2012 Olympic Games with more Olympic medals  
38 awarded to a greater variety of nations than in almost any other  
39 sport; and

1 WHEREAS, California is the leading state in athlete membership  
2 for USA Wrestling and the state with the largest participation in  
3 high school wrestling; and

4 WHEREAS, The California Interscholastic Federation Boys  
5 Wrestling State Championships have been hosted at Rabobank  
6 Arena in Bakersfield, California, since 2005, and the Girls  
7 Wrestling State International Championships have been hosted at  
8 Lemoore High School in Lemoore, California, since 2011; and

9 WHEREAS, Wrestling has become a pathway to higher  
10 education for many young Californians, in particular, those with  
11 a socioeconomically challenged background; and

12 WHEREAS, Many of these young Californians dream of  
13 representing the United States on the international stage at the  
14 Olympic Games; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
16 *thereof concurring*, That the California Legislature urges the  
17 International Olympic Committee to continue to include wrestling  
18 as a core sport of the Olympic Games; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
20 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.